

ON
NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 24th April 1880.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhārat Shramajīvi"	Calcutta ...	2,100	
2	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly ...	175	
3	"Sansodhinī"	Chittagong ...	600	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...		
5	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Rajshahye ...	31	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Calcutta ...	700	13th April 1880.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...		23rd ditto.
8	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	671	13th ditto.
9	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta ...	2,000	
10	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Bardwān ...	296	13th ditto.
11	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca ...	350	18th ditto.
12	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	16th ditto.
13	"Hindu Hitaishini"	Dacca ...	300	
14	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye...	200	14th ditto.
15	"Howrah Hitakari"	Bethar, Howrah ...	400	
16	"Medini"	Midnapore ...	250	14th and 21st April 1880.
17	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Berhampore ...		16th April 1880.
18	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta ...	850	19th ditto.
19	"Pratikar"	Berhampore ...	275	16th ditto.
20	"Rangpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kākinī, Rangpore ...	250	15th ditto.
21	"Sādhāranī"	Chinsurah ...	500	18th ditto.
22	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	19th ditto.
23	"Samālochak"	Ditto ...	1,000	23rd ditto.
24	"Samāchār Sār"	Allahabad ...	350	
25	"Sanjivani"	Mymensingh ...	260	
26	"Som Prakāsh"	Calcutta ...		19th ditto.
27	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Ditto ...	4,000	17th ditto.
28	"Shārad Kaumudī"	Bhowanipore ...	300	
29	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet ...	440	12th ditto.
<i>Tri-weekly.</i>				
30	"Samāchār Sudhāvarshan"	Calcutta ...		
<i>Daily.</i>				
31	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto ...	700	16th to 22nd April 1880.
32	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	16th to 21st ditto.
33	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	15th, and 19th to 24th April 1880.
34	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	
35	"Prabhāti"	Ditto ...		13th, 15th, 17th, 20th, and 22nd April 1880.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
36	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore ...	487	9th April 1880.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
37	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	17th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
38	"Behār Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna ...	500	15th ditto.
39	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	500	15th ditto.
40	"Jagat Mitra"	Ditto ...	157	21st ditto.
41	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	200	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
42	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Ditto ...	250	16th ditto.

POLITICAL.

PRABHATI,
April 18th, 1880.

Now that the Liberals, says the *Prabhāti*, of the 13th April, are shortly to enter upon office, it is necessary that they should be informed of the wants and grievances of the people of this country. While in opposition, the leaders of the party expressed great sympathy for them and held out to them high expectations. The latter therefore, who have faith in their generosity, and because the time for action has now arrived, should take the opportunity of urging the following considerations upon their attention.

Every native of India, who has received any education, desires that India should be governed in her own interests, and for the purpose of promoting the glory and power of England. Every person of liberal sympathies agrees in holding that it is the duty of Great Britain to raise this country to her former glorious condition, and deliver the Aryan race from the troubles which have beset it. The distinction between the conquerors and the conquered should be removed, and the interests of both being made identical, both should be placed on the path of advancement. It is because this is not the case at present that there exists so much discontent, and that the people have not made any advancement, though living under the rule of the most civilized nation in the world. The object which Government has always kept in view being different from that of the people, this has followed as a natural consequence. There should therefore be a change in the policy and principles of the administration. The change should be rational and gradual, and in accordance with the requirements of the times. "That India should be governed in the interests of her people" should be a real principle of action, instead of being, as it is at the present time, an empty phrase. To bring this about would no doubt require a certain amount of self-sacrifice on the part of the British nation, but it is indispensable, and may be fairly asked for from the Liberals. The mere repeal of the Arms Act, the Press Act, and of taxation, or a reduction of public expenditure, would not satisfy the people. These are comparatively trifling matters which should not engage the whole attention of the Liberal party. There are more important measures which are waiting to receive their consideration. These are (1) measures for the extension of a useful and practical education; (2) those for training the people in the art of self-government; (3) for allowing them some share in the work of administration; (4) for consulting their views on the management of the finances of the State; (5) for elevating competent natives to superior offices in the Public Service and thus effecting savings; (6) for admitting educated Bengalis into the Military Service; (7) for admitting Indian representatives into Parliament; (8) those for the improvement of native agriculture and manufactures; (9) those for removing the distinction between the conquerors and the conquered; and (10) those for promoting friendly intercourse between Natives and Europeans.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
April 18th, 1880.

2. Referring to the frequent murders of European and Native officers and soldiers in Afghanistan by the people of that country, the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 13th April, observes that, "if the Afghans have not been able to kill many British troops in open fight, they have, in a manner, made up for it by having recourse to assassination."

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
April 17th, 1880.

3. Scarcely have the Nagas ceased giving trouble, remarks the *Sulabha Samachar*, of the 17th April, when a new cause of difficulty appears. There is something frightfully vicious about the foreign policy of the British Government. They conduct their relations with small tributary or allied States with

Difficulties with the Bhutans.

an overbearingness which cannot but produce indignation. Their allies consider themselves slighted, and unpleasant relations ensue. The conciliatory policy of Lord Lawrence, who was exceedingly popular with the Native Princes, should be followed by the present administrators.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
April 19th, 1880.

4. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 19th April, thus endeavours to account for the strong desire which is being expressed by the people of India to see the Liberals return to power. Although the spread of education and enlightenment, the extensive circulation of newspapers, and the interest which is generally taken at the present time in political matters might, in a great measure, be regarded as explanations of this phenomenon, still it cannot be denied that the narrow and despotic policy of the present administration is its chief cause. Under the *regimé* of Lords Beaconsfield and Lytton a feeling of unrest has from various causes manifested itself among the people. Formerly the case was far otherwise; the Conservatives then did more good to India than their political opponents. The proclamation of 1858 was issued when the Conservatives were in power. The "State Scholarships" were founded by Sir Stafford Northcote, himself a Conservative, only to be abolished by the Liberals as soon as they entered upon office. All this, however, has changed since Lord Beaconsfield's despotic administration commenced, and the acts of the present Ministry have made it unpopular with the natives of India. Their condition is gradually becoming worse, and the arbitrary system of administration, which has been introduced at the present time, has seriously aggravated it. The last three years have been a period of unprecedented hardship to the people of this country. Prices have enormously increased, and, with the exception of cloth and salt, almost every other commodity now sells at rates which are four to five times those that obtained before. Add to this the increase of taxation and the rigorous measures which have been adopted by Government with a view to curtail the liberty of the subjects. Public opinion has been necessarily directed to the actions of the rulers and to the means by which an improvement of this state of things might be secured. Now the Liberals have for some years past taken great interest in Indian affairs and sought to further the true interests of the people of this country; hence it is that the latter desire the success of the Liberals in the contest for political power that is now going on in England. The Editor exhorts the native public to send delegates to that country for the purpose of representing their wants and grievances to the British nation.

5. The reason why many of the Afghan Sirdars absented themselves from the durbar which Mr. Lepel Griffin held at Cabul is thus stated by the same paper:—The Afghans do not put any faith in the promises of the British Government; and it is probable that they have not yet got rid of the idea that the British politicians of the present day are not incapable of breaking their promises, if by so doing they can but promote their own interests. Considering that they do not feel any scruple even in violating treaty engagements, which always possess a peculiar sanctity, what wonder that the Afghans should be so sceptical about their words? Referring to the policy expounded by Mr. Griffin before the assembled Sirdars, the Editor remarks:—Whichever way you go, it is the people of India who are likely to suffer. However persistently the rulers may say that Afghanistan will not be annexed to the British Empire, there can be no doubt that they really desire annexation. Already a Governor has been appointed in Candahar, where also British troops have been stationed. It is needless to say that the cost of all these measures will fall on the shoulders of the Indian tax-payers. There is not much room for hope that the Liberals will be

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

able to rectify the errors of their predecessors in office, and deliver the people from this burden.

NAVAVISHAKAR,
April 10th, 1890.

6. In another article, the same paper is gratified to notice that even such Conservative journals as the *Pall Mall Gazette* and the *Standard* have expressed

The costs of the Afghan war.

themselves in favour of the idea that England should bear a portion of the cost of the Afghan war. This is a good sign, and tends to illustrate the truth of the saying, that misfortune as well as prosperity never comes alone. While the administration of the Conservatives has been fraught with misfortunes and hardships to the people of this country, some brought about by natural causes, and others through the action of Government, the success of the Liberals, itself a gratifying circumstance, comes in the wake of good harvests and rainfalls. It is to be hoped that the new Parliament will arrive at an equitable decision in the matter of the Afghan war expenses.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
April 13th, 1890.

7. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 13th April, makes the following comments in reference to the petition

The License Tax, and the petition of the traders of Bogra.

lately made by the traders of Bogra to the Lieutenant-Governor, on the subject of illegal

assessments under the License Tax Act:—The miserable condition to which the people of India have been reduced at the present time has probably never had any parallel at any former period. In consequence of the gradual draining of their resources by England they are daily becoming more improverished. The price of grains and other articles of food is rising, while the articles are becoming increasingly scarce. What formerly cost ten rupees, can now, with difficulty, be obtained for a hundred; and yet there has been no great accession of wealth into the country. While such is the deplorable state to which India has been reduced, Government is saddling her with a succession of taxes.

Of all the taxes, however, which have been yet imposed, the License Tax is one which has never been equalled for the severity with which it has pressed on the people. It was once remarked that there was not one chest of indigo exported from this country which was not dyed with human blood. It may similarly be observed that the greater portion of the proceeds of the License Tax has been realized only after causing extreme hardship to the poorer classes. The mode of assessment, which was originally vicious, has been made more oppressive through the highhandedness of the officers charged with collecting the tax. It is to be hoped that Sir Ashley Eden, although an advocate of the License Tax, will not still turn a deaf ear to the plaintive representations of the traders of Bogra.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

8. We extract the following observations from another editorial

The defeat of the Conservatives and Sir Ashley Eden.

in the same paper:—How happy are the people of England! They willed, and the

Minister who caused so much uneasiness to the nations of the world, has been turned out of office. We too, indeed, are the subjects of the same Sovereign who rules over them; but there is this difference, that while they have with almost no effort dismissed a Prime Minister, we could not, even if we wished, thus dismiss a petty constable of police. Did we possess even a hundredth part of the power which is possessed by the people of England, the fate of Lord Beaconsfield would doubtless inspire Sir Ashley Eden with fear. The latter could not in that case look on with indifference on any matter affecting the weal and woe of the people. The resignation of Lords Beaconsfield and Lytton will probably produce a change in Sir Ashley Eden; and if a new Viceroy should come out to India, and if the Liberals but act up to

their professions, His Honor will probably have to bear greater mortification than either of those noblemen. Both the Press Act and License Tax Act, with which his name has been so prominently identified, will probably be repealed. But he is so independent in his views that before any such contingencies really take place, it may be expected he will resign.

9. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 13th April, is not satisfied with

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 13th, 1880.

Baboo Brajendra Kumar Seal.

the arrangement by which Baboo Brajendra Kumar Seal has been made Additional Judge of Bankoora without being vested with the powers of a Sessions Judge. According to this arrangement, the inhabitants of Bankoora will have to come to Burdwan to prefer their criminal appeals. This will occasion considerable hardship. Why could not the Baboo be made a Sessions Judge as well? As it is, he has been made Judge, but with only half the powers with which a Judge is usually vested. But what is the necessity of thus seeking to deceive the public? There is not one in Bengal who will be taken in by this. Baboo Brajendra Kumar has been merely appointed a Subordinate Judge on Rs. 1,200 a month. Dr. Hunter and Mr. Lethbridge will now be able to tell the English nation that the present administration has raised a native of India to a District Judgeship.

10. The same paper contains a long article on the recent debate in

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

The Cess Bill and Mr. Mackenzie.

the Bengal Legislative Council on the amendments proposed by the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal in the Cess Bill, and thus remarks in reference to Mr. Mackenzie's speech:—

How far the arguments employed by Mr. Mackenzie are reasonable, or the reverse, we are not now concerned to say; but the spirit of his speech is such as has really surprised us. A perusal of the whole address would lead one to suppose that he had really got warm by hearing the motion of the Hon'ble Baboo Kristodas Pal and the speech which the honorable member had made in support of it; otherwise such statements as the following could never have been made in the Council Chamber:—"The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is not yet reduced to the position of a much-badgered Chairman, content, for peace sake, to have his hands tied by anticipatory resolutions upon every conceivable point of detail," and that for a due discharge of the duties of his high office, "he has to answer first to the Viceroy in Council and Her Majesty's Government at home, and secondly to public opinion."

Now the member who proposed the amendment had not asked that the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor should be, in the administration of the finances, tied in any way; nor did his speech indicate any such views. What are we that we should ask to see an account of sums levied from us, or to so regulate expenditure, that there could be no instances of irregularity? That the authority of the Lieutenant-Governor is all in all in Bengal, we are fully aware of, and there was no need on Mr. Mackenzie's part to tell us that. But that the Lieutenant-Governor is not answerable to any one except the Viceroy, the Home Government, and public opinion, not even to God, we did not know before, and have only learnt this now from Mr. Mackenzie. We know full well that His Honor is answerable to the Viceroy, but what is the meaning of the saying that he is also answerable to the public? What is the meaning of the word "public"—the people of Bengal, or a few European officials? If the former, then it is necessary that the views of the people of Bengal should be consulted. Since the trivial amendment proposed by Baboo Kristodas Pal so excited Mr. Mackenzie, how can we accept this interpretation. If it is the second sense in which we must accept the word, we have no great objections, for this sense is not a new one. But was the amendment moved by the Baboo, which called forth such a sneering speech from Mr. Mackenzie, after all really so unreasonable? The

former did not make any new proposal, but simply asked Government to give effect to the opinions it had consistently expressed for a long time; and if for some reason it was really found impossible to do so, a plain statement of the fact would have laid the matter at rest. But if there is to be no such outspokenness, while the least display of independence on the part of a native member is regarded as intolerable, we would submit that instead of thus permitting high Government officials to indulge in reckless assertions, it were better for Government not to appoint any native member to the Council. If the latter are nominated to this Council only for the purposes of display, the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal should have long before this found out the true intentions of Government and refrained from assuming an independent attitude.

MEDINI,
April 14th, 1880.

11. The *Medini*, of the 14th April, thus writes about Sir Ashley Eden.—We are for many things indebted to Sir Ashley Eden. He really seeks our

welfare and advancement. Were it not for His Honor, who is an able, impartial, generous, and popular ruler, we doubt whether we should be able to bear Lord Lytton's rigorous system of administration. Sir Ashley has on many matters argued with Lord Lytton on behalf of the people. Had it not been for his exertions, we must have gone without the Durga Poojah holidays; if it had not been for him, the harassing license tax might have continued to suck dry the life-blood of the poor, and, but for his exertions, Baboo Brajendra Kumar Seal would not have been elevated to the post of Additional Judge of Bankoora. His Honor has resolved upon sending at the public expense two native graduates of the Calcutta University to England for the purpose of receiving a training in agriculture, and has established a technical college at Shivpore.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 18th, 1880.

12. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 18th April, contains an article on the retirement of Lord Lytton, written in a spirit of sarcasm. The writer ostensibly expresses

great sorrow at Lord Lytton's premature retirement from office, and asks him to take with him his favourites—Sir John Strachey and General Roberts. The people will treasure up in their hearts the memories of the leading public measures of his administration—the Press Act, the License Tax, the remission of the cotton duties, the Arms Act, and the Afghan War. Reference is made to the bonus granted to Sir John Strachey, and Lord Lytton's efforts on behalf of Sir Ashley Eden and Mr. Lethbridge.

DACCA PRAKASH.

13. The same paper replies to the strictures lately passed by the *Indian Daily News* on the system of trial by native juries, and remarks that, for the failure

of justice which undoubtedly occasionally takes place owing to their action, it is the selection of jurors, and not the system, that is at fault. The system, if properly worked, is well adapted to secure the ends of justice. In practice, however, ignorant and uneducated men, who do not possess any important social status, are selected to serve on the jury, and miscarriage of justice is thus often the result.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
April 19th, 1880.

14. While agreeing generally in the observations made by Sir Ashley Eden in his minute on the alleged necessity of trying agricultural experiments in Bengal, the *Navavibhakar*, of the 19th April, points out the desirability of establishing a college in this province, where an improved system of agriculture should be taught to native lads of respectable families. The soil here is extremely well adapted for agricultural operations, and with a little labour might be made to yield large profits. By establishing a technical college at Shivpore, Sir Ashley Eden has conferred a real boon upon the people of Bengal, and

by adopting the suggestions put forth above, he will erect an imperishable monument of his glory in this province.

15. The same paper remarks that the people of this country will be mortified to hear that Sir John Strachey, who has by his measures of taxation extremely harassed them, and whose retirement from India is desired by every native tax-payer, is going to receive a bonus of Rs. 50,000 from the public revenues. The rest of the observations made in this connection are similar to those made in a recent issue of the *Hindu Patriot*.

Sir John Strachey's bonus.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
April 19th, 1880.

16. The same paper directs the attention of Sir Ashley Eden to the injustice which has been for the last two years done to the Overseers and Sub-Overseers in the Public Works Department in the matter of promotion. Much has been meanwhile done for the European Engineers in this respect. Thus Mr. Fouracres retired from the public service on the abolition of the Dehri Workshop and received the prescribed bonus; but he has been again appointed on increased pay as Principal of the new Technical College at Shivpore.

Overseers and Sub-Overseers in Public Works Department.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

17. The *Sahachar*, of the 19th April, notices, with a feeling of exceeding gratification, the success of the Liberals in the recent general election; and expresses a strong confidence in the wisdom and ability of their leader, Lord Hartington. The resignation of Lord Lytton is now only a question of time. No one will regret his departure. India never saw a more worthless ruler than Lord Lytton, and the period of his administration in India will ever remain recorded in history as one of national tribulation.

The Liberal victory.

SAHACHAR,
April 19th, 1880.

18. The same paper, in another article, discusses the question whether India should be held liable for the expenses of the Afghan War, and answers it in the negative. The war was declared in the interests of England, and it is meet that she should pay for it. It is to be hoped that the Liberals will arrive at an equitable decision in this matter.

The costs of the Afghan War.

SAHACHAR.

19. After having been discontinued for one year, the *Som Prakash* again appeared on the 19th April. The first number is almost wholly taken up with an account of the circumstances which have culminated in the resuscitation of the journal. The Editor is profoundly grateful to Sir Ashley Eden and the Viceroy for the generosity with which they have re-considered the case of this paper, and cancelled the bail bond which was executed by its printer and publisher.

The resuscitation of the journal.

SOMA PRAKASH,
April 19th, 1880.

20. The same paper dwells on the injurious consequences which are likely to result from the establishment of distilleries at Rajpore and its neighbourhood. It will cheapen liquor and lead to a general demoralization.

The new distillery at Rajpore.

SOMA PRAKASH.

LOCAL.

21. The *Srihatta Prakash*, of the 12th April, has the following in one of its columns of news:—"We have learnt with surprise that many persons in the village of Ulpore, in the Fureedpore district, earn a livelihood by carrying on an illicit trade in liquor. It behoves Government to make enquiry into this."

Illicit sale of liquor in Fureedpore.

SRIHATTA PRAKASH,
April 12th, 1880.

22. A correspondent of the *Education Gazette*, of the 16th April, asks the authorities to direct the removal of the police outpost from Shibpore to Chandipore under thana Shyampore, in the Howrah district. The change will be exceedingly beneficial. Chandipore and

The removal of the police outpost from Shibpore to Chandipore proposed.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
April 16th, 1880.

neighbouring villages are the frequent scenes of riots, while they receive but a small share of the supervision of the police authorities, owing to the circumstance that the outpost under which they are now placed comprises under its jurisdiction no less than sixty villages.

SADHARANI,
April 18th, 1880.

23. A correspondent of the *Sádháraní*, of the 18th April, complains that the Lieutenant-Governor has ordered the abolition of the sub-registry office at Raygunj, in the Dinagepore district. The inhabitants will now be put to great inconvenience and hardship, as they will be obliged to go to Dinagepore, a distance of 38 miles, for the registration of their documents.

The Raygunj sub-registry office.

SAHACHAR,
April 19th, 1880.

24. The *Sahachar*, of the 19th April, complains of the arbitrary action of the sub-divisional officer of Serampore, who is also the Chairman of the local municipality, in the matter of assessing the house-tax in Konnagar. He has, without any justification, set aside the assessments made by the Vice-Chairman and the experienced Native Commissioners, and fixed very high rates which, if levied, cannot but press severely on the inhabitants, who are mostly poor.

The Chairman of the Serampore Municipality, and the assessment of house-tax in Konnagar.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 24th April 1880.